

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

George W. Johnston

(Reg.No. 28090)

Dennis P. Tramaloni

(Reg.No. 28542)

William H. Epstein

(Reg.No. 20008)

Patricia S. Rocha Tramaloni

(Reg.No. 31054)

Send Correspondence to:

George W. Johnston, Esq., Hoffmann-La Roche Inc., 340 Kingsland Street, Nutley, New Jersey 07110-1199

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

Dennis P. Tramaloni - (201) 235-4475

Full name of sole or first inventor

Masami Kohchi

Inventors signature

Date Jan 10 2001

Residence

Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa-ken 252-0802, Japan

Citizenship

Japanese

Post Office Address

Takakura 509-1-D-202, Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa-ken 252-0802, Japan

Full name of sole or second inventor

Kazunao Masubuchi

Inventors signature

Date Jan 10, 2001

Residence

Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ken 244-0841, Japan

Citizenship

Japanese

Post Office Address

Naganuma-cho 191-1-406, Sakae-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa-ken 244-0841, Japan

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)

Full name of sole or third inventor, if any

Takeshi Murata

Inventors signature

Date

Jan - 10 2001

Residence

Chigasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken 253-0054, Japan

Citizenship

Japanese

Post Office Address

Higashikaigan-Minami 6-6-17-I-106, Chigasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken 253-0054, Japan

Full name of sole or fourth inventor, if any

Takehiro Okada

Inventors signature

Date

Jan. 10. 2001

Residence

Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa-ken 251-0031, Japan

Citizenship

Japanese

Post Office Address

Fujigatani 4-17-17-102, Kugenuma, Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa-ken, 251-0031, Japan

Full name of sole or fifth inventor, if any

Nobuo Shimma

Inventors signature

Date

Jan. 10. 2001

Residence

Chigasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken 253-0054, Japan

Citizenship

Japanese

Post Office Address

Higashikaigan-Minami 2-11-19, Chigasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken 253-0054, Japan

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, duty to disclose information material to patentability (in part) provides, in part, that each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned.

Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim: or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.